

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of )

Customer No. 000026360

HENRI LEPOUTRE )

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Serial No. )

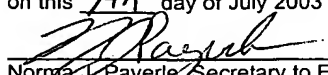
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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
on this 2<sup>th</sup> day of July 2003

  
Norma J. Payerle Secretary to Edward G. Greive  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**37 CFR §§ 1.97, 1.98**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97 encouraging the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant hereby submits the following in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR §1.56.

Information or art known to the Applicant and having an extent of relevance to the present application has been listed on Form PTO-1449 attached hereto. It includes one United States patents and two foreign patents/applications. The Applicant has employed Form PTO-1449 for the purposes of convenience of the Office and the Examiner.

No representation is made that a specific search has been made, that the information is pertinent to the claimed subject matter, that the information is non-cumulative, or that the information represents the only or the best information. The Applicant does not admit that any of the information he has provided is necessarily prior to his invention but rather that it is information of which he is aware and that he believes should be provided to the Office in fulfillment of his duty of disclosure. Any question that may arise regarding priority of a specific reference shall be resolved during prosecution.

It is the position of the Applicant that none of the art provided herein accomplishes the objects of the present invention. The Applicant believes that the claims of the subject application are patentably distinct over the art of record. In the event the Examiner would care to discuss any of the foregoing more specifically, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Edward G. Greive". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Attorney for Applicant

July 7, 2003

<b>Form PTO-1449</b> U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 8-83) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>CAC.P0031</b>		SERIAL NO.	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT <b>Lepoutre</b>			
				FILING DATE		GROUP	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial	1	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If Appropriate)
	1	5,379,806	01/95	Matthews et al.	138	149	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes    No	
	2	DE 197 50 102	06/99	Germany	F16L	55/033		x
	3	EP 1 170 499	01/02	Europe	F02M	35/12		x

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.